assessed requirement of urea for Kharif 2004, availability and sales upto 30.6.2004 in Tripura is as under.

	('000 MTs)
Assessed Demand for Kharif 2004 (entire season)	13.00
Availability upto 30.6.2004	9.20
Sales upto 30.6.2004	5.33
Closing stock as on 30.6.2004	3.87

No reports of shortage of fertilizers have been received from the State Government.

(d) Question does not arise.

Setting up of IFFCO phosphoric plant

†518. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up IFFCO phosphoric plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): (a) to (c) Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) is conducting initial feasibility studies for exploring the possibilities of setting up a phosphoric acid plant.

Subsidy to fertilizer sector

†519. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of subsidy being given by Government to the fertilizer sector has continuously increased in the past years;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given to the fertilizer sector in 1998-99 togetherwith the estimated amount of subsidy to be given in 2004-05;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.